

LABORI'S GREAT DAY

His Return to Court of Vast Aid in Dreyfus' Trial.

HE CORNERS GENERAL MERCIER.

As a Result of His Admissions the General May Be Thrown Into Prison—Other Witnesses to Be Recalled.

RENNES, Aug. 23.—It was Maitre Labori's day at the Lycee yesterday, where Captain Alfred Dreyfus is standing trial on a charge of treason. He was the central figure of the scene. As the Dreyfus drama unfolded before a crowded court hall, Vikinglike form, draped in a long black gown bordered with ermine, sitting in front of the footlights, was the magnet which, from the moment the curtain was rung up until it fell at noon, drew all regards—no merely glances of curiosity, but the steady gaze of admiration. His mere presence brought brightness into the courtroom and fresh light into the proceedings.

Labori did what people had expected. He galvanized the dormant defense into an active, living thing. Maitre Demange was conciliatory. He has always seemed to fear to tread on the military corn. Labori is a gladiator and always speaks to touch his foe to the quick. Let there be the slightest opening in his opponent's defense, and he thrusts home.

When Maitre Demange found nothing to ask a witness, Maitre Labori's quick eye had discovered weak spots, and he came forward with searching questions.

He opened with an eloquent speech, and the audience could have listened for an hour as his rich, melodious voice, in modulated tones and then impassioned outbursts, accompanied by energetic and speaking gestures, filled the courtroom.

Generals Rogot, Mercier and Boleidoff, with the other military witnesses, gave one another anxious glances and put their heads together to exchange obviously disagreeable impressions as Labori plied the smaller military fry who occupied the witness stand successively with disconcerting questions.

Labori cornered General Mercier on the Schneider letter, which the latter had used in evidence and which Colonel Schneider had repudiated as a forgery. The general was surprised when Labori suddenly demanded that Mercier be recalled. Evidently he hoped the tribunal would support him in refusing to explain how he got a copy of a letter which was of a later date than his incumbency at the ministry of war.

But Labori was not to be denied. He insisted that Mercier should give some explanation. Then, after hesitating, Mercier declared that he would assume all the responsibility attaching to his possession of the documents. This, as Labori intended it should be, was a demonstration of communication by the general staff of part at least of the secret dossier to an ordinary soldier, such as Mercier became immediately on leaving the ministry of war.

General Mercier made a pitiable exhibition. M. Labori in a passion fairly thundered his questions. "What can be the value of documents," said he, "which we cannot see and cannot discuss, documents for which it is impossible to know who takes the responsibility? I appeal to you, M. le President, to be good enough to ask General Mercier how this document came into his possession."

"M. le President," continued Labori, "I insist that a reply be given. General Mercier has sworn to speak the whole truth. I must insist that questions respectfully tendered by the defense be answered by him. The court martial, unlike the court of cassation, has to deal with the whole range of the affair, and it is necessary that complete light be thrown upon it. I insist that General Mercier answer me, for it is my right."

After Mercier's shuffling collapse M. Labori sank back into his armchair, great beads of perspiration standing on his forehead, but his countenance radiant at the impression he had made.

When Labori had attained his object and forced a confession of grave violation of law on the part of General Mercier, he gave a smile of grim satisfaction and then added significantly, "I shall have other questions to put to General Mercier."

The scene was highly dramatic and made a profound impression upon all the spectators. As the result of this admission and with the additional charge of communicating secret documents to the court martial of 1894 Mercier is liable to arrest at any moment. Indeed some people think it not impossible that he will be lying in the military prison adjoining the cell of Captain Dreyfus before the week is out.

Another series of questions put by Maitre Labori concerned Lajoux, a spy formerly in the service of the French war office, but packed off to South America, according to various military witnesses, because he proved a swindler. Labori asked how it was, if that were so, that Lajoux was still receiving monthly payments.

Commandant Rollin, completely taken aback, replied that a cessation of payments was under consideration. The impression conveyed by Labori's questions and the replies given was that Lajoux was being paid by the war office to keep out of the way in the interest of Esterhazy, whom Lajoux, in a letter read in court offering revelations in the Dreyfus affair, indicated as the real traitor.

M. Labori's cross examination in this matter, therefore, was a distinct advantage to the accused.

M. Labori announced that he intended to recall several witnesses who had made depositions during his absence. This means Mercier, Rogot and others, who will be put to the test of a severe cross examination. To his friends M. Labori has expressed himself confident of being able to tear to pieces the evidence these generals have given so confidently before a sympathetic tribunal.

Captain Dreyfus pursued the attitude he took up Monday and replied to the statements of hostile witnesses with arguments and the presentation of counter facts, only once giving way to his feelings and offering a cry of protest. This was at the conclusion of Colonel Berlin's deposition, when, with broken voice, the accused declared his love of France and the army.

"Yes," he cried, "I love France, and I love my country, but it is with sentiments different from the ones animating those who come here today to testify against me."

M. Labori, if anything, was better after his exertion than before. The excitement under which he labored seemed to act as a stimulant, although many

friends, noticing his flushed face, feared there might be a collapse.

So far from this being the case, he was able to go for a drive with his wife in an auto car in the afternoon, and on his return he held quite a reception, spending the time till dinner in going over the evidence and preparing for today's session.

The scrupulous tactics of the anti-Dreyfus newspapers may be illustrated by a paragraph appearing in their organ here, declaring that the attack on Labori, which, it insinuates, did very little harm, was solely to arouse the pity of the people of Rennes for the ignominious lot of an escaped convict from Devil's island.

Germany and Dreyfus.
HAMBURG, Aug. 23.—The Hamburgische Correspondenz, discussing the assertion that Germany should publish certain documents proving the innocence of Dreyfus, says, "The answer to this is that documents of this nature cannot be produced, for the simple reason that Germany never had anything to do with Captain Dreyfus."

WHEN DEWEY COMES.

New York Plans for the Greatest Celebration Ever Witnessed.

NEW YORK, Aug. 18.—The committee on plan and scope of the Dewey celebration met in the mayor's office yesterday.

General Butterfield read a cablegram from Admiral Dewey which effectually sets at rest all the reports that the admiral would first go to Washington before the celebration in his honor in New York. The message, dated Leghorn, Aug. 14, was as follows:

"Yours of Aug. 1 received. Will reach the lower bay without fail Friday, Sept. 29. Ready for parade Saturday morning."

General Rowe of the committee on land parade and decorations said that provision had been made for quartering 35,000 troops in the city.

The committee on decorations asked for \$55,000. Of this \$10,500 was to be spent for general decoration purposes in different parts of the city; \$5,000 for decorating the grand stands at Twenty-third street; \$2,000 for Grant's tomb, and \$5,000 for the Brooklyn bridge.

Mr. Nixon said the scheme of City Engineer Martin to place on the bridge the words "Welcome Dewey" in letters 36 feet high and of a total length of 300 feet, which could be seen 50 miles away, at a cost of \$5,000, was a good one, and he recommended its adoption.

Porto Rican Finances.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Charles Z. Landrum, the American postmaster at Mayaguez, Porto Rico, who is here on his vacation, saw Secretary of the Treasury Gage with regard to the financial situation of the island, especially in reference to the rate of exchange. He says the Porto Ricans refuse to recognize the value of the peso fixed by this government. Its value was fixed by Secretary Gage at 60 cents, the value of the Porto Rican peso having fluctuated for years between 45 and 70 cents. The quantity of the coins is only about 5,000,000 pesos, and the comparatively small amount of coin in circulation enables the banks to secure and hold them at higher figures than the rate fixed by the United States. Lately they have exchanged at from 61 to 63 cents in American currency. Mr. Landrum suggested that this government rein the pesos, stamping 60 cents on one side and one peso on the other. Secretary Gage agreed to take the matter under advisement. This, however, a subject with which congress will have to deal.

His Estate to Charity.

NEW HAVEN, Aug. 23.—According to the will of the late George W. Malory, which was offered for probate upon the death of his widow, his estate, valued at \$90,000, will be distributed as follows: To the General Hospital society of Connecticut, \$5,000; to Yale university, \$5,000; to be applied to the perpetual fund for educating poor students in the divinity school; \$5,000 to the Congregational church of which he was a member, and the residue to be equally divided between the American board of commissioners for foreign missions and the American Home Missionary society.

General Wheeler at Manila.

MANILA, Aug. 22.—While a reconnoitering party of the Twenty-fourth infantry, under Captain Crane, was crossing the Mariquina river on a raft the hawser broke. The current, very swift at this point, caused the raft to capsize, drowning nine enlisted men. The United States transport Tartar, from San Francisco July 24, with General Joseph Wheeler and his daughter, companies of the Nineteenth infantry and more than \$1,300,000 in coin, has arrived. General Wheeler, who is well, landed and reported at headquarters.

Well Known Missionary Buried.

BOSTON, Aug. 23.—Funeral services for Rev. William Butler, the well known Methodist foreign missionary, were held yesterday at the Methodist church at Newton Center. Several hundred prominent Methodist clergymen from various parts of New England were present. Rev. L. H. Spencer, pastor of the Newton Center Methodist church, officiated, and addresses were made by Bishop Thorburn of India, Bishop Mallieck, Rev. Dr. Reed, secretary of the board of missions of the Methodist church, and others.

May Get the Largest Telescope.

KINGSTON, Jamaica, Aug. 23.—Professor Edward Charles Pickering of Harvard observatory is here seeking a suitable location for the largest telescope in the world, which is being constructed at Cambridge especially for observing the new planet which is due to pass very close to the earth 18 months hence. He is favorably impressed with Jamaica's advantages. Professor Pickering established the Misti observatory of Peru.

Dewey's Movements.

VILLEFRANCHE, France, Aug. 23.—Admiral Dewey yesterday received a visit from Vice Admiral Bienaimé, Mr. Henri Vignaud, the United States charge d'affaires at Paris, and the United States vice consul at Nice. Admiral Dewey is apparently in excellent health. He will stay at Nice for a week and will take part in as few functions as possible.

For the Cuban Census.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Acting Secretary Meiklejohn has appointed James A. Spalding of Washington, David G. Belt of Iowa, B. C. Lappin of Washington and William L. Spaulding of New York clerks at \$1,800 a year, to assist in taking the census of the people of Cuba. They have been ordered to proceed to Santa Clara.

McKinley to Go to Long Branch.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—The following telegram was received by Secretary Casey of the Horse Show association, who is in charge of the military tournament to be held at Long Branch on Friday from Vice President Hobart: "President will arrive with me on Friday morning at West End, and we will review troops during the day."

TRANSVAAL'S CRISIS

Kruger Said to Have Made Alternative Proposals.

HAS NOW RESORTED TO EVASION.

Said to Have Proposed Five Year Franchise and One-Fifth Representation in First Rand Provided There Be No Interference.

PRETORIA, Aug. 23.—It is ascertained on the highest authority that no definite reply has been sent to the proposal of the British secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, to submit to a joint commission of inquiry the effect upon the uitlanders of the recent franchise reforms. The precise situation is that as a result of the pourparlers a communication was dispatched Monday to Sir Alfred Milner, British high commissioner in South Africa and governor of Cape Colony, which embodies certain alternative proposals.

For various reasons these are kept strictly confidential, but it is believed that they will admit of the conclusion of a modus vivendi.

It is understood from unofficial sources of information that the alternative proposals of the Transvaal government are for a five years' franchise and a one-fifth representation of the uitlanders in the first rand, provided the imperial government does not further interfere in the internal affairs of the Transvaal.

Official circles at present regard the situation as tending to improve. The ammunition consigned to the South African Republic is still detained by the Portuguese authorities in Delagoa bay.

BLUE BOOK ISSUED.

Document Regarding the Transvaal Crisis Published.

LONDON, Aug. 23.—A parliamentary paper dealing with the Transvaal crisis has just been issued. It details the efforts of the Boer government during the past year to have the question of the superiority of Great Britain submitted to arbitration and Great Britain's repeated refusals to discuss the basic point.

The document adds that Sir Alfred Milner, the governor of Cape Colony and high commissioner of South Africa, writing to Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, the secretary of state for the colonies, last June, said:

"The way in which the secretary of state juggles with the convention of 1894 is rather irritating to a plain man." The final dispatch from Mr. Chamberlain, dated July 13, 1899, to Sir Alfred Milner concurs with the latter's view as to the untenable Transvaal contention, adding that the British government had no intention to continue to discuss the question of suzerainty with the Transvaal.

Rhodes on the Crisis.

CAPE TOWN, Aug. 23.—In the Cape assembly Mr. Cecil Rhodes, referring to the Transvaal question, said yesterday: "No. There will be no bloodshed. President Kruger, like a sensible man, will climb down. The less the Cape Colony is concerned in the quarrel the better." Continuing, Mr. Rhodes said it was certain that the Transvaal would become an English speaking community, and the uitlanders, being in a vast majority, would form a government in keeping with their views. He expressed the hope that the settlement would be fair and that the Cape Colony would let the imperial government deal with that matter also.

Boers Are Arming.

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 23.—The field cornets are busy distributing muzzles and ammunition to the burghers. The exodus of miners continues.

Movement Against the Erie.

CLEVELAND, Aug. 23.—A movement has been started among railroad men, it is said, to induce the Erie to withdraw its reduced rate on New York business. It is probable, moreover, that the pressure brought to bear will be so strong that the Erie may have to make a virtual acknowledgment that the rate has been withdrawn, but that it will not be withdrawn in fact. The Erie has, it is said, quietly entered into an agreement with a great many people to give them the rate, and at last it may take refuge behind the interstate commerce law, which prohibits discrimination and insists that the low rate shall be given to all.

To Welcome Returning Soldiers.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—Acting Secretary Allen yesterday telegraphed Mayor Phelan of San Francisco saying that the navy department would be glad to cooperate with the San Francisco authorities in the welcome it is proposed to give to the returning soldiers on the transport Sherman. To that end orders have been issued to the commander of the battleship Iowa to fire a salute on the arrival of the transport, and all the sailors and marines of the ships, at San Francisco will take part in the parade and demonstration.

Schuykill Haven Iron Works Sold.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Aug. 23.—The Schuykill Haven iron works have been sold to Colonel Thomas H. Rickett of Pottsville, representing a syndicate. The price paid was \$21,000. The purchasers of this plant have already bought mills at Danville and Columbia. Two puddling and one blast furnace will be added to the equipment of the works. Dr. Ludwig S. Filbert and several other wealthy Philadelphians and ex-State Senator Charles F. King and other Pottsville capitalists are said to be interested.

Major Harrison Better.

SANTIAGO, Cuba, Aug. 22.—Major Russell B. Harrison, inspector general, who is suffering with yellow fever that developed five days ago, showed some improvement yesterday. It is believed, however, that another case is developing at Cristo, the headquarters of the Americans.

New York Markets.

FLOUR—State and western quiet and easier with wheat; winter patents, \$3.70 3/4; winter straights, \$3.49 3/4; Minnesota patents, \$3.59 1/4; winter extras, \$2.49 3/4. WHEAT—No. 2 red opened steady on a decline but, to a progressive selling by bear operators and favorable spring wheat news; September, 76 3/4-76 7/8. RYE—Steady; state, 55c; No. 2 western, 50 1/2c; f. o. b., float, spot. CORN—No. 2 opened steady with wheat, but declined under crop news and larger country offerings; September, 37 1/2-37 3/4. OATS—Steady; state, 27 1/2c; No. 2 western, 27 1/2c. HAY—Steady; meadow, \$8.75; timothy, \$11.00. EGGS—Steady; prime western steam, \$5.25; nominal. BUTTER—Steady; state dairy, 15 1/2c; state creamery, 17 1/2c. CHEESE—Firm; large, white, 9 1/2c; small, 10 1/2c. MOLASSES—Steady; state and Pennsylvania, 17 1/2c; western, ungraded, 12 1/2c. SUGAR—Steady; No. 10 Orleans, 32 1/2c. COFFEE—Quiet; domestic, 4 1/2c; Java, 4 1/2c. PEPPER—Steady; city, 4 1/2c; country, 4 1/2c. SALT—Steady; shipping, 56 1/2c; good to choice, 75 1/2c.

COLUMBIA'S NEW SAILS.

The Cup Races the Herreshoff Boat Will Carry Increased Canvas.

BRISTOL, R. I., Aug. 23.—When the cup defender Columbia meets her English challenger Shamrock in the first of the international cup races off Sandy Hook next October, the American yacht will be more heavily sparred and will carry more canvas than she has had in any race this season.

When the steel mast was tried in the new boat, it was found that she stood up much stiffer than when using the pine mast, and as soon as this became apparent the builders conferred with the owners and decided to put enough additional sail on to cause her to heel down as originally planned for. Orders were immediately given to construct a new steel mast, longer and bigger than the one which collapsed at Newport the first of the month. A new boom and gaff are also to be built, longer than the ones used in the tuning up process.

Managing Owner C. Oliver Iselin has just placed an order with a Lawrence (Mass.) duck manufacturing company for 2,000 yards of special duck, which is to be cut up and used for the lower sails of the Columbia. The canvas is to be of a special quality, made in such a manner as to prevent much stretching, and will weigh about 21 ounces to a yard. This will give a total weight for the lower sails, if the cloth is used for jib and staysail besides the mainsail, of about 2,600 pounds.

The canvas for the sails used previously was also made at Lawrence, but the order was for only 1,600 yards, which figures indicate that the owners are contemplating an increase in sail of about 400 yards, or about 2,100 square feet, a yard of canvas containing 3 1/2 square feet. It is believed here that the Columbia can carry this great increase of sail without any difficulty and that her speed will increase proportionately.

The Shamrock Stripped.

NEW YORK, Aug. 23.—As light as the day she was launched, the yacht Shamrock lies alongside her Erie basin pier. Completely stripped of all her sea-going spars and rigging and with everything taken out from below, she floats fully 18 inches higher than she did upon her arrival. The jigger mast and mainmast were lifted out in the forenoon yesterday. They were laid on the deck of a derrick and later taken to the storehouse where the rest of the Shamrock's spars are stowed. During the afternoon a number of bags of sand were passed up from the Shamrock's hold and put on board the tender Mononautie. It is said they were used in the bilges and other parts of the yacht as ballast. The Shamrock will lie where she is for the present. She is not to be drydocked until the arrival of Sir Thomas Lipton, and perhaps not then, for her captain says it is not necessary to haul her out until the time set for measuring her, just before the races. The Shamrock is to receive her racing rig at once.

To Honor the Tenth Pennsylvania.

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 22.—Arrangements have been completed for the reception of the Tenth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers, upon its arrival from California next Monday. When the state line is reached, a committee will meet the train and welcome the members home, and upon the arrival of the regiment in Pittsburgh there will be a monster military parade over the principal streets of the city to Schenley park, where dinner will be served and awards and medals presented to the officers and men. Addresses will be made by President McKinley, Governor Stone, Congressman Dalzell and Lieutenant Colonel Barnett and the regiment then be finally dismissed. On Tuesday, the 29th inst., Governor Roosevelt of New York will present the members of the New Brighton company with medals from the citizens of that place.

The Final Trial Races.

NEW YORK, Aug. 22.—The next races between the yachts Columbia and Defender will be sailed on Sept. 2, 4 and 6 off Newport, R. I. The final selection of the Newport course for the final trial races meets the entire approval of the managing owners of both the Columbia and Defender, chiefly for the reason that the starting point is easier of access than Sandy Hook, and again because, in the event of an accident either to hull, spars, rigging or sails of either yacht, more than a day can be saved in reaching the Herreshoffs, where all or any of those repairs can be made.

Yellow Fever at Panama.

COLON, Colombia, Aug. 23.—Several cases of yellow fever have occurred at Panama, the disease, it is said, having been imported from Guayaquil, Ecuador. An urgent appeal was made to the local authorities in regard to the necessity of the immediate construction of a lazaretto in Panama. It was pointed out that otherwise the recently increased traffic of the isthmus with Pacific ports must suffer a decrease.

Indian Troubles Over.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 23.—General Merriam has made a telegraphic report to the war department on the trouble among the Indians at Navajo Springs, A. T. His account coincides with the press reports and states that no further trouble is expected.

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